



Council

North Tyneside Council

To All Members of the Council

Tuesday, 21 September 2021

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of North Tyneside to be held in **Chamber - Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY at 6.00 pm on Thursday, 23 September 2021** for the transaction of the following business.

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
5. Motions	3 - 6
Four valid Motions on Notice, signed by at least three Members of the Council, have been received for consideration at this meeting.	
9. Questions by Members of the Council	7 - 8
Three valid questions on notice have been received for a response at this meeting.	

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Paula'.

Chief Executive

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting and receive information about it. However, in order to enable the meeting to be held in a Covid-secure manner, places for members of the public are limited. Please email democraticsupport@northtyneside.gov.uk or call 0191 643 5358 if you wish to attend or require further information.

North Tyneside Council wants to make it easier for you to get hold of the information you need. We are able to provide our documents in alternative formats including Braille, audiotape, large print and alternative languages.

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North Tyneside Council Report to Council 23 September 2021

Title: Motions

Notice has been received of the following motions from Members of the Council to be put to the Council meeting.

1. Motion signed by Councillors S Brockbank, L Bartoli and L Bones

Motion to North Tyneside Council – support for refugees and service personnel.

The horror of the Taliban taking over Afghanistan remains writ large in all our minds – and rightly so.

The oppression of groups ranging from women to other faith groups, from the LGBTQ community to those who have served the people in a military role, is a human crisis. There are many differing views as to whether it was right to withdraw from this troubled theatre of war, but as local politicians it is incumbent on us to ensure that North Tyneside Council has made all preparations to welcome those, who have been assessed by Her Majesty's Government as needing our protection and ensure that they have access to services.

Equally, the impact on the heroic service personnel who have protected and, in sad cases, died for the cause of freedom in Afghanistan must be considered and the Council must ensure that the bravery shown is reflected in the speed and quality of the service that our military can expect.

We call on the Elected Mayor and Cabinet to:

1. Re-assure Council and residents that all preparations have been made to accommodate refugees.
2. Re-assure Council that service personnel will be at the front of any queue of service provision.
3. Provide Council with a clear plan as to how arrangements will be monitored and reviewed.

Legal Implications

Whilst the first request has no legal issues, the second request may be problematic, as it seems to ensure that “service personnel” are at “the front of any queue of service provision”. In many cases, service provision is provided on the basis of need rather than ‘first come; first served’. Were the Council to disregard need when appropriate, it would be open to legal challenges and potential damages claims. With regard to the third request, providing this does not give rise to the risk of identifying individuals, the plan details can be shared.

Financial Implications

Should funding from Government be insufficient to cover the costs of the infrastructure that is needed to support refugees and service personnel.

2. Motion signed by Councillors A Newman, G Bell, and C Burdis

North Tyneside Council notes:

- Veterans' mental health continues to be an issue with many veterans suffering from a number complex issues including PTSD.
- Local authorities are often best placed to give aid to the armed forces community living in their areas.
- North Tyneside council has an excellent record of pioneering initiatives to support our armed forces community, however without dedicated funding the authority is limited in what it can provide.

North Tyneside council calls upon the Mayor to:

- write to both the chancellor Rishi Sunak and the minister for veterans affairs Leo Docherty to request that they supply ringfenced funding to help support local services dedicated to our armed forces personnel

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this motion.

Financial Implications

Should funding be granted to support local services dedicated to armed forces personnel, there is a risk that there would be a shortfall and any funding awarded is not sufficient.

3. Motion signed by Councillors W Samuel, A McMullen and S Day

Council notes:

- Social care spending nationally currently accounts for nearly half of all spending in councils nationally.
- The Conservative government has cut over £127 million from North Tyneside's council's budget and transferred responsibility for paying for social care to local residents and businesses. With the council tax rises in the past few years being as a result and mainly made up of the social care precept.
- Government contribution to council spending has gone down from 50% to 10% in the past 8 years with the government instead placing the burden on residents and businesses.
- Nationally the Conservatives have left 1.6 million elderly and disabled people without the help they need.

North Tyneside council believes:

- The governments 'plan' for social care would force the burden for paying onto the low paid and young working population.
- The conservative government's plan would result in a tax on jobs through employers NI contribution.
- The plan hammers those low paid working in social care at the same time as facing a cut in Universal Credit, they'll also face the biggest burden from the national insurance increase while the government once again fails to improve their often poor terms and conditions.

North Tyneside council calls upon the Mayor to:

- Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to raise the funds via taxes or other routes which share the burden more equitably across society and fairly reflect ability to pay.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this motion.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this motion.

4. Motion signed by Councillors H Johnson, C Johnson and K Clark

North Tyneside Council Notes that:

- The process of bringing in Universal Credit under a Tory government has been chaotic and confusing for the residents of North Tyneside.
- That the increase of £20 to Universal Credit since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic has helped the poorest residents in North Tyneside.
- Almost 40% of Universal Credit claimants are in work.

North Tyneside Council believes that:

- The government should listen to calls from the Labour Party to stop these plans and make the £20 uplift to Universal Credit permanent.
- Some of the poorest residents in North Tyneside will be the most affected by these changes, leaving many unable to afford to eat or heat their homes over winter.
- These changes will lead to an increase in the use of food banks as families struggle to afford food.

North Tyneside Council calls upon the Mayor to:

- Write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions asking them to reconsider these changes given the affect they will have on residents in North Tyneside.
- Call on the government to listen to the Labour Party and other organisations and make the £20 uplift to Universal Credit permanent.

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this motion.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this motion.

North Tyneside Council Report to Council 23 September 2021

Title: Questions by Members of the Council

Notice has been received of the following questions from Members of the Council to be put to the Council meeting.

1. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor Karen Clark

The Social Metrics Commission reported that 4.5 million people are experiencing the deepest levels of poverty in the UK Can the Mayor confirm North Tyneside council fully supports the North of Tyne poverty truth commission?

2. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor Andy Newman

Will the Mayor join me as the Armed forces champion for NTC in raising the concerns of the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan with HM Government and wills she also write to the Home Secretary outlining out support for the evacuation of British citizens and those who assisted Allied forces in Afghanistan?

3. Question to the Elected Mayor by Councillor Linda Arkley

The Cabinet approved an ambitious plan to transform North Shields and the Fish Quay on Monday 25th January 2021.

It outlined eight separate projects for the town centre and Fish Quay. These include enhancing the appearance of key areas, creating a new transport hub, and interchange and town square to host various events. A new cultural quarter based around Howard Street and Riverside walkway linking the town centre to the Fish Quay.

There are also proposals for high-quality housing at key locations and moving the North Shields ferry to Western Quay.

Cabinet approved the next steps to: -

- Refining a Delivery Plan for the masterplan which will set out the timing and funding of the projects contained in the masterplan.
- Progress the delivery of those schemes contained in the masterplan for which there is funding has been secured.
- Securing external funding for those elements of the masterplan for which funding is not currently in place.

Would the Elected Mayor provide the Council with an update on all aspects of the North Shields Masterplan.

Would she also provide a financial break down of grants, Funding, Sales, Investment received and is there a shortfall of funding for the North Shields Master plan?